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500.33021CX5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): NINOMIYA, et al

Serial No.: 09/933,805

Filed: August 22, 2001

For: STORAGE SYSTEM

Group: 2812

Examiner: S. Whitemore

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 12, 2002

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language translation of the foreign patent office report citing the documents.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

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Respectfully submitted,



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